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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/588,672	06/06/2000	Noboru Hamada	862.C1922	9686

5514 7590 06/02/2003

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EXAMINER

EL HADY, NABIL M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2154

DATE MAILED: 06/02/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/588,672

Applicant(s)

HAMADA, NOBORU

Examiner

Nabil M El-Hady

Art. Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6/6/2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Art Unit: 2154

1. Claims 1-22 are pending in this application.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claim 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matchefts et al. (US 6,330,600), hereafter "Matchefts" in view of Nakashima et al. (US 6,470,385), hereafter "Nakashima".

4. As to claims 1, 7, and 13, Matchefts discloses the invention substantially as claimed including a network device managing apparatus and method for managing a network (Fig. 1, and Fig. 2) to which a device which broadcasts a network managing packet at least once after activation (col. 1, lines 61-64; col. 4, lines 30-42, 47-51; col. 8, lines 55-59; and col. 11, lines 60-63), the apparatus comprises packet receiving means (50, Fig. 2; and col. 5, lines 53-55), and packet determining means (52, Fig. 2; col. 5, line 61; and col. 6, lines 29-30).

5. Matchefts, while disclosing acquiring means for a set request number, a trap sequence number, and system up-time for a device from the packet (col. 6, lines 55-64), and registering means for the full configuration of the device (col. 2, lines 5-9; 32, Fig. 1; col. 4, lines 2-5; and col. 7, lines 8-14), he apparently does not explicitly acquire the device address or register the device address. However, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to acquire, as well, the device address and register it, the device address is known to

Art Unit: 2154

be part of the trap packet (col. 8, lines 64-65). Nakashima, for example, in a similar trap-based network monitoring system (col. 1, lines 59-63), discloses extracting identifier from a received message (s70, Fig. 17) and register it (s74, Fig. 17).

6. As to claims 2-4, 8-10, and 14-16, Matchefts discloses a transmitting means for transmitting to the device a verify packet for verifying that said device is a predetermined type of device (e.g. a printer), and a response to the verify packet returns with information indicating the status of the device of the predetermined type (e.g. a printer) to be registered by the register means together with the address of the device and an indication of the predetermined type of the device (col. 2, lines 24-27; col. 6, lines 45-52; and Fig. 3). Nakashima, also, discloses a transmitting means for transmitting to the device a verify packet for verifying that said device is a predetermined type of device (e.g. a printer), and a response to the verify packet returns with information indicating the status of the device of the predetermined type (e.g. a printer) to be registered by the register means together with the address of the device and an indication of the predetermined type of the device (col. 2, lines 10-14).

7. As to claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 17, and 18, Matchefts discloses a display means with control for displaying the address and the status of the device registered by the registering means (col. 4, lines 9-24).

8. As to claim 19, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 13 above. In addition, Matchefts discloses a computer-readable storage medium for storing a computer program for implementing the network device managing method claimed above (col. 16, lines 1-34).

Art Unit: 2154

9. As to claim 20, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1 above. In addition, Matchefts discloses registering the device address in an external apparatus connected via the network (32, Fig. 1).

10. As to claim 21, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1 above. In addition, Matchefts discloses transmitting the address of the device to an external client apparatus connected via the network (12, Fig. 1).

11. As to claim 22, Matchefts discloses the network managing packet as an SNMP trap packet (col. 2, lines 5-10, 21-25).

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Garvey et al. (US 5,774,667) ; Rangaraian et al. (US 5,828,830) ; Hagiuda et al. (US 6,182,225) ; Babu et al. (US 6,122,639) ; and Nguyen et al. (US 6,219,703).

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nabil M El-Hady whose telephone number is (703) 308-7990. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai T An can be reached on (703) 305-9678. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Art Unit: 2154

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. El-Hady". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Nabil El-Hady, Ph.D, M.B.A.  
Primary Patent Examiner  
May 29, 2003